



FACT SHEET

GRID RESILIENCE AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the U.S Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office is administering a historic \$10.5 billion investment via the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) program to enhance grid flexibility, improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change, and ensure American communities have access to affordable, reliable, clean electricity when and where they need it.

ELECTRICAL GRID MODERNIZATION AND WILDFIRE REDUCTION IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Several counties in the Tri-County Electric Cooperative (TCE) area experience higher-than-normal outages due to excessive wind, flooding, wildfires, or hurricanes. TCE's Power Meter Squared & Green Tree project will avoid, mitigate, and recover from major disruptions and plan for future disruptions. This will be done with smart technologies to include modernizing outdated meters, predictive vegetation management software, and adaptive artificial intelligence (AI) modeling. Overall, this project will reduce faults and wildfire risk, outage duration time, and the number of consumers affected by extreme weather.

Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

- › Decreased outage duration and frequency, as well as expedited restoration times.
- › Lower risk of electric grid faults, which decreases the risk of wildfires.
- › Increased grid reliability from using technology to identify and remove high-risk areas, such as overgrown trees and unwanted plant growth, that can lead to power outages.
- › Upgrading of 18,500 existing electric meters and communication devices.
- › Investment in low-income and high-energy-burdened communities, which make up more than 90% of TCE's service area.
- › Commitment to job creation and coordination with the local community and state organizations to ensure equitable opportunities for the community TCE serves.
- › TCE will continue its support of paid internship programs that provide on-the-job training while learning.

PROJECT DETAILS

- › **Project:**
Tri-County Power Meter Squared & Green Tree
- › **Applicant/Selectee:**
Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc (TCE)
- › **GRIP Program:**
[Grid Resilience Utility and Industry Grants](#) (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Section 40101(c))
- › **Federal cost share:**
\$4,665,803
- › **Recipient cost share:**
\$2,332,903
- › **Project Location:**
South Carolina
- › **Project type:**
Vegetation Management and Advanced Metering

HELPFUL LINKS

- › [Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program](#)
- › [About the Grid Deployment Office](#)